

REMARKS:

Claims 21-46 are pending in the application.

The Office Action rejected claims 21 – 26, 29 – 30, and 43 – 45 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,693,236. A Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(b) to obviate the double patenting rejection has been filed along with this response. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request removal of the double patenting rejection.

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

A Fee Authorization is enclosed to cover the filing fees for a disclaimer; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/6057-06301

Respectfully submitted,



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